

# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES



### NEWS RELEASE

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### Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery News Release #45

**SEINE FISHERIES:** VFDA reports they have secured sufficient broodstock at SGH, and has recommended additional fishing opportunity in Port Valdez. Time and area for future commercial fishing periods in Port Valdez will be based on consideration for VFDA broodstock collection status and harvest from Port Valdez clean up fisheries.

PWSAC began its pink salmon cost recovery program yesterday at AFK and WNH, and has collected approximately 17% of the assigned pink salmon revenue goal through July 24. It is anticipated that cost recovery fishing will continue on Friday and Saturday. Future CPF openings targeting PWSAC enhanced pink salmon in hatchery subdistricts will be based on cost recovery fishing progress and run entry. Test fishing in the Southwestern District began on July 22, gauging pink salmon run entry and stock composition. The maximum set size on July 24 was 3,300 pink salmon.

ADF&G sampling of pink salmon harvested in the Southwestern District on July 22 resulted in an average weight of 2.62 pounds per fish. ADF&G sampling of CPF harvest from the Southwestern District resulted in an estimated sex ratio of 16% female. ADF&G sampling of CPF harvest from the Northern District resulted in an estimated sex ratio of 21% female.

**EASTERN DISTRICT:** Waters in the Eastern District, north of a line from 61° 02.855'N., 146° 44.204'W. to 61° 02.373'N., 146° 43.407'W. to 61° 02.992'N., 146° 39.165'W., will open to commercial fishing for 14 hours on Friday, July 26 beginning at 6:00 am. Waters of Port Valdez west of 146° 23.00' W Long. will be open for the duration of this period. From 1:00 pm until 5:00 pm on July 26, waters of Port Valdez west of 146° 20.00' W Long. will be open to commercial fishing. **STARTING AT 5:00 PM, ALL WATERS OF PORT VALDEZ EAST OF 146° 23.00' W LONG. WILL BE CLOSED TO COMMERCIAL FISHING.** All waters of the Valdez small boat harbor and within 50 yards of the entrance to the harbor are closed to commercial fishing. Waters within 200 yards of the AMHS Valdez Ferry Terminal are also closed to commercial fishing when the ferry is arriving and departing. Waters within the Alyeska Marine Terminal (Trans Alaska Pipeline System) Security Zone are closed to commercial fishing. Anadromous stream closures and regulatory closed waters north of a line from Potato Point to Entrance Point will not be in effect in Port Valdez on July 26.

**Out of consideration for early run timing brood stock, VFDA requests that vessels refrain from anchoring and transiting closed waters near the hatchery.** This pulse fishery is being recommended by VFDA to access pink salmon that are surplus to their escapement needs.

**The next scheduled salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to occur by 2:00 pm Friday, July 26.**

Permit holders are advised that unscheduled announcements based on current escapement data may occur at any time inseason either establishing an additional period or extending an open period.

Announcement recordings are available for **gillnet fisheries at 907-424-7535 and seine fisheries at 907-424-7345. In addition, announcement recordings are available in Anchorage at 267-2843.**

Additionally, announcements, inseason harvest data, and escapement data are available at the following web addresses:  
<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareacopperriver.main> (Copper River homepage) or  
<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareapws.main> (Prince William Sound homepage).

Unless otherwise specified, all openings are clock openings based on Alaska Daylight Time, which is based on Coordinated Universal Time and may be obtained by calling 303-499-7111.

The department encourages commercial permit holders to renew their licenses early and to check their CFEC vessel registration stickers to make sure that they are current.

The department also encourages permit holders to report observed violations to Wildlife Safeguard at 800-478-3377. Reports are anonymous and cash rewards may be paid for successful prosecution of violations.